

THE PARISH OF THAMES

Welcomes you to

ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Sunday 1st December, 2019

1st Sunday Of Advent

"Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath.

Each candle has a meaning.

This first candle is **HOPE.**"

The candle is lit.

Psalm 33:20 – We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield."

Prayer: "Eternal God, as we await the coming of our saviour,
give us the courage to hope.

Give us grace to see your plans of redemption

for our lives, for this community, and for the world.

Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. **Amen.**"

Opening Hymn: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set Thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation
hope of all the earth Thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a King;
born to reign in us for ever;
now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.

By Thy own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by Thy all-sufficient merit,
raise us to Thy glorious throne

Opening Prayer

Into this season of expectation
Into the bustle of our lives and the hard to find moments of solitude,
into our homes and situations along with friends and families,
into our hearts, and those often hidden parts of our lives
we prepare to welcome Christ Jesus, Messiah.

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

(Please sit or kneel)

We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to be and do
as members of Christ's body.

Silence

In God there is forgiveness.

**Loving and all seeing God,
forgive us where we Have failed to serve you;
and where our thoughts and actions have been contrary to yours
we ask your pardon.**

God forgives us; be at peace.

Silence

*Rejoice and be glad
for Christ is resurrection,
reconciliation for all the human race*

**We shall all be one in Christ, one in our life together.
Praise to God who has created us,
praise to God who has accepted us,
praise to God who sends us into the world.**

Sentence of the Day

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of
Jacob; that He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths.

Isaiah 2:3a

Collect of the Day

**Praise and honour to You living God;
Your coming will be like a thief in the night,
like lightning flashing across the sky.
Grant that we may be ready,
and our hearts answer, Come Lord Jesus.
Hear this prayer for Your love's sake.**

Amen.

1st Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Read by Margaret MacKay

The Mountain of the LORD

2:1 This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

Many peoples will come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways, so that we may walk in His paths."

The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

⁵ Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

Psalm: 122

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

Our feet are standing in your gates, Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built like a city that is closely compacted together.

That is where the tribes go up— the tribes of the LORD—to praise the name of the LORD according to the statute given to Israel.

There stand the thrones for judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure.

May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels.

"For the sake of my family and friends, I will say, "Peace be within you."

For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen***

2nd Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Read by Raewyn Grey

The Day Is Near

¹¹ And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here.

So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God

The Gradual Hymn: Living Under The Shadow Of Your Wings

Living under the shadow of His wing we find security.
Standing in His presence we will bring
our worship, worship, worship to the King.

Bowed in adoration at His feet we dwell in harmony.
Voices joined together that repeat,
worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb.

Heart to heart embracing in His love reveals His purity.
Soaring in my spirit like a dove,
Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.

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3rd Reading: Matthew 24:36-44

Read by Beth Philip

Praise and Glory to God

The Day and Hour Unknown

³⁶ "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him.

This is the gospel of Christ

Praise to Christ, the Word

Sermon:

Given by The Rev'd David Cooper

Intercessions:

Brought to us by Beth Philip

Peace: Please turn to page 485 in the Prayer book.

Offertory Hymn: I Need Thee Every Hour

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like Thine, can peace afford.

Refrain

*I need Thee, Oh, I need Thee; every hour I need Thee;
Oh, bless me now my Saviour, I come to Thee.*

I need Thee every hour, stay Thou near by;
temptations lose their power when Thou art nigh.

Refrain

I need Thee every hour, in joy or pain;
come quickly and abide, or life is vain.

Refrain

I need Thee every hour, teach me Thy will,
and Thy rich promises in me fulfil.

Refrain

I need Thee every hour, most Holy One;
Oh, make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son.

Refrain

Communion: pg 485

(prayer is available near the High altar during communion)

Closing Hymn: The Bridegroom Song

Refrain:

***Sound on the trumpet,
call to the people,
sing your new song.
Our bridegroom's coming,
it won't be long.
Break out the banners,
join in the dancing,
no time for gloom.
Prepare the banquet
He's coming soon.***

If you're one of God's people,
rejoice in praise and song.
Come lift up your hearts before Him,
and give your voices in praise and song.

Go out with tears and weeping
to bring the harvest home.
It's time for the joy of reaping,
in joy the sheaves now are coming home.

Sending Forth: Go now to love and serve the Lord; go now in peace.



A note from your Vestry:

What do you think about building a wheelchair accessible bathroom at the rear of St George's Church ?

Would you like a copy of the proposed plan including what it would cost?

This has been a vestry conversation that we would now like to share with you.

Ministry Team for 1st December

Liturgist: Sue Lewis-O'Halloran **Server:** Grace Wilkinson
Intercessor/Prayers: Beth Philip **Organist:** John Mounsey
President: The Rev'd Arthur Mead
Preacher: The Rev'd David Cooper
Welcome Team: Kate Jones, Christina Philip, Leslie Wilkinson
Morning Tea: Margaret MacKay, Sharon Cordery

Parish Community News

CALENDARS
available after the service—\$15

Prayer Needs

"Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with Me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." Revelation 22:12 & 13.

Please pray for the Parishioners of Thames in this season of Advent, that each person may really know the presence of the risen Lord in their life, and praise God for the restoration to Him the 1st coming of the Lord Jesus made possible.

This week, 1st December - 8th December, 2019

Sunday 1st December 6pm: Interchurch Christmas Carols Service at the Salvation Army Church

Tuesday 3rd: Bible Study, 1pm at the home of Fiona Harden, 101 Warahoe Road, R.D.1, Thames. 868 1136

Wednesday 4th: Selwyn Group, 9:30-12:00, Church Hall. All welcome

Thursday 5th: Service at 10am Holy Communion (1662), St George's Chapel

Wednesday 25th December 12pm: A place at the Table Christmas Lunch

Sunday 8th December, 9:30

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| First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 | George Haffenden |
| Psalm: 72:1-7, 18-19 | |
| 2nd Reading: Romans 15:4-13 | Paul Jennings |
| 3rd Reading: Matthew 3:1-12 | Winnie Sheehan |
| Preacher: | The Rev'd Peter Philip |
| President: | The Rev'd Catherine Mackereth |
| Liturgist: | Leslie Wilkinson |
| Server: | Margaret MacKay |
| Music Ministry/organist: | Lynne Mounsey |
| Intercessions: | Stephen Williams |
| Sanctuary Guild/Flowers: | Winnie Sheehan, Natalie Geary |
| Morning Tea: | Allan Judd, AnneMarie Hartley |
| Welcome Team: | Winnie Sheehan, Lee Bissett |

Vicar: The Rev'd Brendon Wilkinson.

Vicar's Warden: Kate Jones

Peoples Warden: Lynne Mounsey

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